

The elected claims encompassed by the elected species include claims 9, 10, 26, and 27.

If the Office chooses to maintain the election requirement, Applicants respectfully expect the Office, if the elected species is found allowable, to continue to examine the full scope of the subject matter to the extent necessary to determine the patentability thereof, that is, extending the search to a reasonable number of the non-elected species according to M.P.E.P. § 803.02 and 35 U.S.C. § 121.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: December 10, 2007

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